

APPROVED

BEAVERTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 2, 2012

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

As the Commission had no officers present, City Transportation Engineer Jabra Khasho called the Traffic Commission meeting to order in the Forrest C. Soth City Council Chamber, 4755 SW Griffith Drive, Beaverton, Oregon, on Thursday, February 2, 2012, at 7:06 p.m.

In accordance with Commission Bylaws, Mr. Khasho asked the Commission to propose a motion nominating one member as Acting Chairperson for this meeting only.

Commissioner Johnson MOVED, SECONDED by Commissioner Cohen to nominate Bradford McClean to serve as Acting Chair for the February 2 meeting.

Question called on the motion. Commissioners Cohen, Holmes, Johnson, and McClean voted YES. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously. (4:0)

Commissioner McClean moved to the chair's seat and called the roll.

Traffic Commissioners present included Paul Cohen, Lauren Holmes, Amy Johnson, and Bradford McClean. Commissioners Ernie Conway John Herring, and Ashley Hosford were absent and excused. Alternate Commission member Bill Berg was in the audience.

City of Beaverton staff included City Transportation Engineer Jabra Khasho, Police Traffic Sergeant Steven Schaer, and Commission Recorder Debra Callender.

VISITORS

David Vanek, Beaverton, said he owns Vanek's Shoe Repair on Broadway in downtown Beaverton. Mr. Vanek said he understands the Commission will soon consider changing the parking time limit on Broadway to two hours. He and Mr. Charles Wilson circulated a petition to Broadway business asking to maintain the current one-hour parking limit. He said nine business owners signed their petition. (Petition is in the record.)

Commissioner Johnson asked for the number of business on that section of Broadway.

Mr. Vanek said there are three or four other businesses, in addition to the nine owners who signed their petition.

Charles Wilson, Beaverton, said he owns the Beaverton Sub Station on Broadway and March 3 will be the Sub Station's 31st anniversary. He calculated that he has opened and closed his business about 9,500 times over those 31 years. He referred to the consultants who collected data for the Downtown Beaverton Parking Solutions Study

and said those "Study Boys" spent perhaps nine days in downtown Beaverton, which is not much compared to his 9,500 days spent observing parking. He said he remembers the time of the Study well because someone had approached both he and Mr. Vanek asking them to sign a petition for two-hour parking. He said they have been through this several times with the City and have been able to keep one-hour parking on Broadway.

Mr. Wilson said their current petition includes signatures from Bob Lanphere with his 55 years in business on Broadway and Carrie Ann Schubert owner of Beaverton Bakery with an 85-year business history on Broadway.

Mr. Wilson said potential customers drive down Broadway looking for parking so they can do business; when parking spaces are not available they drive off and take their business where parking is more convenient. He compared downtown parking to the restaurant business. He said restaurant owners need fast table turnover, with diners eating and promptly vacating the table so staff can seat and serve the next diners. Diners who linger are not profitable. He said 95 percent of the Broadway customers need to get in quickly, do their business, and go. He said tavern customers are the exception as they mostly arrive in the evening when parking is available. He invited the Commissioners to visit Broadway on a weekday before the March 1 public hearing.

STAFF COMMENTS

There were no staff comments.

CONSENT

Acting Chair McClean reviewed the consent agenda comprised of the January 5, 2012, draft meeting minutes and Issue TC 692 "Centerline and Parking Restrictions on SW Diamond View Way South of Jadeview Way."

There were no changes to the minutes. Commissioner Johnson MOVED, SECONDED by Commissioner Cohen to approve the January 5, 2012, meeting minutes as written.

Question called on the motion. Commissioners Cohen, Johnson, and McClean voted YES. Commissioner Holmes abstained as she was excused from the January meeting. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously. (3:0)

Commissioner Johnson MOVED, SECONDED by Commissioner Cohen to approve Issue TC 692 "Centerline and Parking Restrictions on SW Diamond View Way South of Jadeview Way."

Question called on the motion. Commissioners Cohen, Johnson, Holmes, and McClean voted YES. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously. (4:0)

PUBLIC HEARING

Issue TC 693: Parking Time Revisions on the East Side of SW Washington Avenue North of 2nd Street

Acting Chair McClean opened the public hearing concerning TC 693.

Staff Report:

Mr. Khasho said TC 693 is similar to Issues TC 690 and 691 that the Commission heard at the January 5 meeting. He said City staff are working with the Beaverton Downtown Association to improve parking in the downtown core area. The Association has requested consistency for the parking time limits in the core area in accordance with the Downtown Parking Solutions Study that City Council adopted under Resolution No. 3901. He said that Study recommends a two-hour parking time limit to best serve patrons and other short-term visitors in the retail core area.

Mr. Khasho said TC 693 concerns a short section of Washington Avenue, between 1st and 2nd Streets, that has a two-hour parking time limit on the west side and a four-hour parking time limit on one section of the east side. Both time limits are effective Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. He said TC 693 proposes converting the four-hour time limit to a two-hour time limit for the sake of consistency and to bring this section into accord with the Downtown Parking Solutions Study. He said this change affects three parking spaces.

Mr. Khasho said the Study found the typical downtown customer stays about one-and-one-half hours; this change would allow customers to find convenient parking, conduct their business, and leave without fear of a parking citation. He said a two-hour parking limit also helps reserve the on-street parking spaces for customers and encourages downtown employees to use the all-day parking in City-owned lots. Mr. Khasho asked the Commission to approve the staff recommendation on this issue.

Public Testimony:

The Commission received written testimony on this issue from Traffic Sergeant Steven Schaer (in the record).

No one came forward to testify.

Staff Comments:

Staff had no additional comments.

Acting Chair McClean closed the public hearing concerning TC 693.

Commission Deliberation:

Acting Chair McClean said the Parking Study's recommendation was to make downtown parking more consistent with two-hour parking limits. He said customers could be confused with four-hour parking on one side of the street and two-hour parking the other side. He supports the recommendation. He asked for other comments.

There were none.

Commissioner Johnson MOVED, SECONDED by Commissioner Cohen to approve the staff recommendation for TC 693 to revise the four-hour parking time limit on the east side of SW Washington Avenue north of 2nd Street to a two-hour parking time limit

between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and to approve the Final Written Order.

Question called on the motion. Commissioners Cohen, Holmes, Johnson, and McClean voted YES. The MOTION CARRIED unanimously. (4:0)

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Khasho said the Commission had asked to hold an executive session after the February meeting. As three Commissioners are absent, he suggested moving the session to the March meeting so all Commissioners could hear the same information.

The Commission agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

The February 2, 2012, meeting of the Traffic Commission adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Debra Callender, Commission Recorder